

Virgin Mary Statue Survives 7.8 Earthquake

By Nelson Hertel

A severe 7.8 earthquake rocked the country of Ecuador on April 16, 2016, suddenly claiming hundreds of lives. We see in this picture that despite the quake's devastating effects, the statue of Our Lady of Light located in the Leonie Aviat School in Manta was miraculously preserved.

Also unharmed were the Blessed Sacrament, reserved in the tabernacle of the school's chapel, and a smaller statue of Our Lady, besides different liturgical items. The rest of the school was reduced to rubble. At Our Lady of the Rosary Parish in Tarqui, another statue of the Blessed Virgin was untouched.

Could this earthquake have been permitted by Heaven as a punishment for sin, particularly the crime of blasphemy? Almost 100 years ago at Fatima, Our Lady told us not to offend God anymore because "He is already too much offended." Horrible sins have drastically increased at exponential levels in the following decades. In speaking to Sr. Lucy in 1930, Our Lord told

her regarding the devotion of the Five First Saturdays, that the fifth way in which people blaspheme against the Immaculate Heart are the "offenses of those who directly outrage Her, in Her holy images." In preserving His Mother's holy images in Ecuador, Jesus shows us how important these are to Him, and how they must be also for us.

God Himself commands us to make reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. She promised to those who make the reparatory Five First Saturdays, that She will "assist them at the hour of death with all the graces necessary for the salvation of their souls."

Let us seriously and faithfully begin (again) making the Five First Saturdays. Let us make fervent reparation for our own sins and those of all mankind. We will then be sure of the Blessed Mother's assistance at the hour of death, whether or not it comes suddenly for us, as it did for those killed in the Ecuador earthquake. [FC](#)



We see here how God protected the Image of His Holy Mother.

The earthquake is a reminder that we know not when we will be called.

Wear your Brown Scapular, pray the Rosary to ensure you have salvific protection for your soul.

